

SENATE BILL 1094  
By McLeary

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to lottery scholarships.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-902, is amended by adding the following language as new, appropriately designated subdivisions:

( ) "Entering freshman" means a student entering a postsecondary institution who has not attempted any semester hours at any postsecondary institution after graduating from high school, completing high school in a home school program, or obtaining a GED;

( ) "Sophomore student" means a student at a postsecondary institution who is in the third or fourth semesters of full-time attendance or the equivalent if the student attends part-time;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-907, is amended by deleting the words and punctuation "To be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship," and substituting instead the words and punctuation "To be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship as an entering freshman,".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-908, is amended by deleting the words and punctuation "To be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship," and substituting instead the words and punctuation "To be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship as an entering freshman,".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 49-4-9\_\_.

(a) To be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship as a sophomore, a student shall:

(1) Meet the requirements for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship as an entering freshman that are applicable to the student for the method by which the student completed high school or the requirements applicable to a student obtaining a GED, except any requirement that the student enroll in an eligible postsecondary institution no later than the fall semester immediately after graduating from high school, completing high school in a Tennessee home school program, or obtaining a GED;

(2) Be admitted to and enroll in a regionally accredited postsecondary institution located outside of Tennessee without a HOPE scholarship no later than the fall semester immediately after graduating from high school, completing high school in a Tennessee home school program, or obtaining a GED;

(3) Transfer to an eligible postsecondary institution as a second semester freshman or as a sophomore student;

(3) Maintain satisfactory progress in a course of study in accordance with the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs at any postsecondary institution attended;

(4) Meet the continuation requirements of § 49-4-911; and

(5) Continue to meet all applicable requirements for the scholarship at the time of application.

(b) A student who applies for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship under this section shall maintain continuous enrollment in postsecondary institutions that are either out-of-state regionally accredited postsecondary institutions or eligible postsecondary institutions prior to application.

(c) A student receiving a HOPE scholarship under this section shall be eligible to receive the scholarship as provided in § 49-4-913.

(d) No retroactive award of a Tennessee HOPE scholarship shall be made under this section.

(e) If a student receiving a Tennessee HOPE scholarship under this section also meets the academic requirements for a General Assembly Merit Scholarship that are applicable to the student for the method and date by which the student completed high school, then such student shall also receive the General Assembly Merit Scholar supplemental award.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.